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# Lesson 9 Using Synonyms

Reflection on past experiences helps to shape your present life. For example, getting through a tough situation might have taught you a lesson that still helps you today. Emotions you've experienced might help you to understand the feelings other people have. You might have memories that occasionally make you feel confident, secure, angry, confused, or sad. The words in the following list relate to looking back at life events.

**Word List**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **ambivalence** | **ephemeral** | **nostalgia** | **serene** |
| **bemused** | **incomprehensible** | **reminiscent** | **vibrant** |
| **blighted** | **lament** | | |

## EXERCISE A Synonyms

**Each boldfaced word is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. Brainstorm other words related to the synonyms and write your ideas on the line provided. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its meaning.**

1. **blighted** : spoiled _____
   Dictionary definition _____
2. **incomprehensible** : unintelligible _____
   Dictionary definition _____
3. **serene** : peaceful _____
   Dictionary definition _____
4. **bemused** : preoccupied _____
   Dictionary definition _____
5. **ephemeral** : short-lived _____
   Dictionary definition _____
6. **ambivalence** : indecision _____
   Dictionary definition _____
7. **lament** : mourn _____
   Dictionary definition _____
8. **nostalgia** : homesickness _____
   Dictionary definition _____
9. **vibrant** : lively _____
   Dictionary definition _____
10. **reminiscent** : suggestive _____
    Dictionary definition _____

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# Vocabulary Power *continued*

## EXERCISE B Economy of Language

**Draw a line through the italicized phrase. Above it, write the vocabulary word that can replace the phrase.**

1. Julie was full of *conflicted feelings of enthusiasm and fear* when she thought about moving to a new town.
2. Their visit was *frustrating and somewhat tarnished* by the knowledge that they may never see each other again.
3. I now find my decision to stop running with the track team *impossible to understand.*
4. After Jordan had finished his exams, he felt *calm and satisfied* for the first time in days.
5. The townspeople continue to *express sorrow over* the loss of several acres of forest to the fire.

## EXERCISE C Antonyms

**Write the vocabulary word that is an antonym, or most nearly *opposite* in meaning.**

1. permanent _____
2. straightforward _____
3. disturbing _____
4. unsentimental _____
5. improved _____
6. rejoice _____
7. certainty _____
8. alert _____
9. dull _____
10. meaningless _____

## EXERCISE D Clues Matching

**Write the vocabulary word that best matches the clue.**

1. This word can describe a dream at night or a passing thought.

   _____

2. This word describes a detective who can't stop thinking about an unsolved crime.

   _____

3. Music from another era can be called this.

   _____

4. This word may be used to describe a bright fireworks display that lights up a night sky.

   _____

5. Someone who wishes he could return to the 1970s has a feeling of this.

   _____

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# Lesson 10 The Latin Root *mille*

Many words have *mille* as their root. The Latin root *mille* means "thousand." Since the root part of a word carries the word's main meaning, recognizing *mille* will help you to understand the meanings of these words.

**Word List**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **mile** | **millennium** | **millimeter** | **millipede** |
| **milestone** | **milligram** | **millionaire** | **millisecond** |
| **millefleurs** | **milliliter** | | |

## EXERCISE A Context Clues

**Use your understanding of the root *mille* and context clues to determine the meanings of the boldfaced vocabulary words below. Write your definition of the word. Then, look up each word in a dictionary and write the definition.**

1. The Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, so in 2776 the United States will celebrate its first **millennium**.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
2. They watched a **millipede**, a creature fringed by tiny moving limbs, move across the picnic table.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
3. Tiffany asked, "How many thousands of dollars does a **millionaire** have?"
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
4. One of the handwoven rugs had a solid color with a single flower at its center, and the other had a bright **millefleurs** pattern.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
5. Bob was so angry that he said he would not wait a second, a half-second, or even a **millisecond** longer.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
6. Dr. Dixford started her new patient on a pill that contained only one **milligram** of medication.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____

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# Vocabulary Power *continued*

7. A **milliliter** of water is barely enough to dampen part of a tissue.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____

8. Did you know that the original **mile** was loosely based on a number of paces by foot?
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____

9. The class tracked each **millimeter** of the tiny insect's movement across the desk.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____

10. Graduating from college was a **milestone** in Juanita's life.
    My definition _____
    Dictionary definition _____

## EXERCISE B Word Association

**For each group of words, write the vocabulary word that belongs.**

1. drop, teaspoon, fluid ounce _____
2. year, decade, century _____
3. ounce, gram, grain _____
4. striped, checkered, paisley _____
5. map, sign, landmark _____
6. long distance, highway, feet _____
7. wealth, bank, money _____
8. inch, line, dash _____
9. creature, spider, bug _____
10. moment, flash, instant _____

## EXERCISE C Analogies

**Analogies show relationships between things or ideas. To complete an analogy, determine the relationship between the first two things or ideas. Then, choose the word from the word list that creates the same relationship in the second pair.**

1. spines : porcupine :: legs : _____
2. ignorance : scholar :: poverty : _____
3. colors : rainbow :: flowers : _____
4. weight : ton :: distance : _____
5. one thousand : one :: meter : _____

## EXERCISE D Multiple-Meaning Words

**As you learned in Exercise A, *millennium* and *milestone* are multiple-meaning words. Originally, *millennium* referred to a period of time and a *milestone* was a measurement of distance. Each word, however, has developed a more symbolic meaning. Symbolic meanings suggest something more than the exact meanings of the words. Refer to the definitions you located in the dictionary. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, explain the symbolic meaning of one of these words and its relationship to the original meaning. Give examples to illustrate each meaning.**

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# Vocabulary Power

## Lesson 11 The Suffix *-ous*

Suffixes have their own meanings and can be added to the ends of word roots to create new words with new meanings. The Latin suffix *-ous* is used to form adjectives that mean "having," "full of," or "identified by." For example, *-ous* added to the word *beauty* forms the word *beauteous*, which means "having beauty." The list below contains words that have the *-ous* suffix.

**Word List**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **analogous** | **harmonious** | **suspicious** | **tenacious** |
| **audacious** | **illustrious** | **tempestuous** | **vigorous** |
| **capricious** | **malicious** | | |

**EXERCISE A** **Synonyms**

**Each boldfaced word is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. Brainstorm other words related to the synonym and write them on the line provided. Then, look up the vocabulary word in a dictionary, and write its meaning.**

1. **tempestuous** : stormy _____
   Dictionary definition _____
2. **vigorous** : robust _____
   Dictionary definition _____
3. **capricious** : flighty _____
   Dictionary definition _____
4. **harmonious** : agreeable _____
   Dictionary definition _____
5. **illustrious** : famous _____
   Dictionary definition _____
6. **analogous** : alike _____
   Dictionary definition _____
7. **audacious** : bold _____
   Dictionary definition _____
8. **malicious** : mean-spirited _____
   Dictionary definition _____

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# Vocabulary Power *continued*

9. **suspicious** : questionable _____
   Dictionary definition _____

10. **tenacious** : persistent _____
    Dictionary definition _____

## EXERCISE B Word Meanings

**Circle the letter of the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.**

1. A **capricious** person is most likely to _____.
   a. always have a plan
   b. change his or her mind
   c. be dependable
   d. be stubborn

2. A **vigorous** jogger is _____.
   a. energetic
   b. slow
   c. small in size
   d. clumsy

3. Among the most **illustrious** are _____.
   a. hurricanes
   b. books
   c. children
   d. entertainers

4. A **harmonious** meeting might end with _____.
   a. a handshake
   b. a fight
   c. tears of grief
   d. an encore

5. One particularly **analogous** pair is the _____.
   a. cat and mouse
   b. coyote and wolf
   c. duck and pond
   d. flea and elephant

## EXERCISE C Multiple-Meaning Words

**Several of the vocabulary words have more than one meaning. Using your understanding of these meanings, write the *-ous* adjective that best describes each of the following people or situations.**

1. a turbulent relationship _____
2. a person who is untrusting of others _____
3. a strong, clear argument _____
4. a bright star _____

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# Lesson 12 Using Reading Skills

## Drawing Inferences

When you come across an unfamiliar word in your reading, examine the context for clues and details that imply certain information. Infer what the word means from these, then look up the word in a dictionary.

**EXERCISE**

**For each sentence below, use context clues to infer the meaning of the boldfaced word. Write the meaning you inferred from the context. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its definition.**

1. That garbage pile is one of the most **malodorous** things I've ever smelled; it ranks with my brother's sneakers.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
2. A scientist can win no higher **accolade** than the Nobel Prize.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
3. Francine's speech is full of **malapropisms,** such as when she suggested we take a different "tact" to solve the problem.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
4. Some of the candidate's ideas were **dubious,** such as his suggestion that the government use social security funds to help pay off the national debt.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
5. The date when Charlie spilled spaghetti sauce on his girlfriend's dress then wrecked his father's car was a **fiasco.**
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
6. When you drive across the United States, you'll find that certain things are **ubiquitous,** such as fast-food restaurants and shopping malls.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
7. We need a name for our program that can become a meaningful **acronym,** such as Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or DARE.
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____
8. Edgar Allan Poe is a master of **onomatopoeia;** for example, in his poem, "The Bells," he writes, "How they clang, and clash, and roar!"
   My definition _____
   Dictionary definition _____

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# Review: Unit 3

**EXERCISE A**

**For each boldfaced word, circle the letter of the word that is most nearly *opposite* in meaning.**

1. **incomprehensible**
   a. understandable b. confusing c. calm d. brief
2. **serene**
   a. disturbing b. old c. quiet d. irritable
3. **ambivalence**
   a. energy b. carelessness c. certainty d. conflict
4. **lament**
   a. lecture b. sing c. cry d. rejoice
5. **millionaire**
   a. worker b. pauper c. volunteer d. spendthrift
6. **vigorous**
   a. robust b. weak c. short d. plentiful
7. **harmonious**
   a. friendly b. tempestuous c. forgettable d. serene
8. **malicious**
   a. kindhearted b. wise c. apologetic d. frightened
9. **suspicious**
   a. pleasant b. violent c. sympathetic d. credulous
10. **tenacious**
    a. strong b. feeble c. mean d. silent

**EXERCISE B**

**For each of the words listed below, write a sentence on the back of this sheet in which it is used correctly.**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| bemused | reminiscent | milligram | analogous | illustrious |
| vibrant | millipede | millisecond | capricious | millefleurs |

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